3rd March 1955]

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" The Government are giving one-fourth maintenance grant to these maternity and child-welfare centres. Supplementary food articles—most of them gifts from the UNICEF—are distributed by these centres."

SRI K. VINAYAKAM :—" The Hon. Minister was pleased to give information regarding the number of labour cases attended to in child-welfare centres. Have the Government got in their possession information relating to the number of cases that were never brought to such centres and how does the percentage of such cases compare with the total births? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" Figures given by me do not include cases brought to the maternity hospitals and private maternity homes. There might be a large number of cases of the kind mentioned by the hon. Member."

SRI C. KANDASWAMY :—" In spite of the fact that only about 35,000 maternity cases have been treated in these centres in rural areas and nearly four times the number in urban areas, the Government are not opening more such centres in the rural areas. Will the Government open more in rural areas? "

THE HON. SRI A. B. SHETTY :—" We are having at present 430 maternity and child-welfare centres and 54 maternity blocks. It is the responsibility of the local bodies to provide such centres and Government give help whenever necessary."

Bridge across the Cauvery river near Keelayur

* 1054 *Q.*—SRI M. P. SUBRAMANYAM (on behalf of Sri K. R. Sambandam) : Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether the Government have any proposal to construct a bridge across the Cauvery river near Keelayur, Sembanarkoil firka, connecting Kaveripattinam road and Keelayur road in Mayuram taluk, Tanjore district?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" No, Sir.

The Government have however sanctioned the construction of a bridge across the river Cauvery on the Aruppattinatham village road near Melaiyur village in Mayuram taluk to benefit the surrounding villages, including Keelayur."

Increments to Harijan Welfare school teachers in Malabar

* 1055 *Q.*—SRI E. T. KUNHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether teachers employed in Labour Welfare schools in Malabar have been granted increments in their scales of pay for the years 1948–1954; and

(*b*) if not, the reasons therefor?